

Culberson  
Davis (KY)  
Davis, David  
Davis, Tom  
Deal (GA)  
Dent  
Diaz-Balart, L.  
Diaz-Balart, M.  
Doolittle  
Drake  
Dreier  
Duncan  
Ehlers  
Emerson  
English (PA)  
Everett  
Fallin  
Feeney  
Ferguson  
Flake  
Forbes  
Fortenberry  
Fossella  
Foxy  
Franks (AZ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Gallegly  
Garrett (NJ)  
Gilchrest  
Gingrey  
Gohmert  
Goode  
Goodlatte  
Granger  
Graves  
Hall (TX)  
Hastert  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Heller  
Hensarling  
Herger  
Hobson  
Hoekstra  
Hulshof  
Hunter  
Inglis (SC)  
Issa  
Johnson (IL)  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Jordan

## NOT VOTING—14

Barrett (SC)  
Carson  
Cubin  
Davis, Jo Ann  
Delahunt

Dingell  
Gerlach  
Jindal  
Lee  
Perlmutter

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining on this vote.

□ 1157

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 941, 940 and 939, had I been present, I would have voted on rollcall 939, “yea,” rollcall 940, “yea,” and rollcall 941, “nay.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 188, not voting 17, as follows:

Radanovich  
Ramstad  
Regula  
Rehberg  
Reichert  
Renzi  
Reynolds  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)  
Rogers (MI)  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Roskam  
Royce  
Ryan (WI)  
Sali  
Saxton  
Schmidt  
Sensenbrenner  
Sessions  
Shadegg  
Shays  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Souder  
Stearns  
Tancredo  
Terry  
Thornberry  
Tiahrt  
Tiberi  
Turner  
Upton  
Walberg  
Walden (OR)  
Walsh (NY)  
Wamp  
Weldon (FL)  
Weller  
Westmoreland  
Whitfield  
Wicker  
Wilson (NM)  
Wilson (SC)  
Wolf  
Young (AK)  
Young (FL)

## NOT VOTING—14

Barrett (SC)  
Carson  
Cubin  
Davis, Jo Ann  
Delahunt

Dingell  
Gerlach  
Jindal  
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The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 188, not voting 17, as follows:

Abercrombie  
Ackerman  
Alexander  
Allen  
Altmire  
Andrews  
Arcuri  
Baca  
Baird  
Baker  
Baldwin  
Barrow  
Bean  
Becerra  
Berkley  
Berman  
Berry  
Bishop (GA)  
Bishop (NY)  
Blumenauer  
Boren  
Boswell  
Boucher  
Boustany  
Boyd (FL)  
Boyd (KS)  
Brady (PA)  
Braley (IA)  
Brown, Corrine  
Butterfield  
Capps  
Capuano  
Cardoza  
Carnahan  
Carney  
Castor  
Chandler  
Clarke  
Clay  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Conyers  
Cooper  
Costa  
Costello  
Courtney  
Cramer  
Crowley  
Cummings  
Davis (AL)  
Davis (CA)  
Davis (IL)  
Davis, Lincoln  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
DeLauro  
Dicks  
Doggett  
Donnelly  
Doyle  
Edwards  
Ellison  
Ellsworth  
Emanuel  
Engel  
Eshoo  
Etheridge  
Farr  
Fattah  
Filner  
Frank (MA)  
Giffords  
Gillibrand  
Gonzalez  
Green, Al  
Green, Gene

Barrett (SC)  
Carson  
Cubin  
Davis, Jo Ann  
Delahunt

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Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 188, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 942]

## YEAS—227

Grijalva  
Gutierrez  
Hall (NY)  
Hare  
Harman  
Hastings (FL)  
Herseth Sandlin  
Higgins  
Hill  
Hinchey  
Hinojosa  
Hirono  
Hodes  
Holden  
Holt  
Honda  
Hooley  
Hoyer  
Inlee  
Israel  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee  
(TX)  
Jefferson  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Jones (OH)  
Kagen  
Kanjorski  
Kaptur  
Kennedy  
Kildee  
Kilpatrick  
Kind  
Klein (FL)  
Kucinich  
Lampson  
Langevin  
Lantos  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lipinski  
Loeb sack  
Lofgren, Zoe  
Lowey  
Lynch  
Mahoney (FL)  
Mahoney (NY)  
Markey  
Marshall  
Matheson  
Matsui  
McCarthy (NY)  
McCollum (MN)  
McCrery  
McDermott  
McGovern  
McIntyre  
McNerney  
McNulty  
Meek (FL)  
Meeks (NY)  
Melancon  
Michaud  
Miller (NC)  
Miller, George  
Mitchell  
Mollohan  
Moore (KS)  
Moore (WI)  
Moran (VA)  
Murphy (CT)  
Murphy, Patrick  
Murtha  
Nadler

Barrett (SC)  
Carson  
Cubin  
Davis, Jo Ann  
Delahunt

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining on this vote.

□ 1204

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 942 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay.”

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English (PA)  
Everett  
Fallin  
Feeney  
Flake  
Forbes  
Fortenberry  
Fossella  
Foxy  
Frelinghuysen  
Gallegly  
Garrett (NJ)  
Gerlach  
Gilchrest  
Gingrey  
Gohmert  
Goode  
Goodlatte  
Gordon  
Granger  
Graves  
Hall (TX)  
Hastert  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Heller  
Hensarling  
Herger  
Hobson  
Hoekstra  
Hulshof  
Hunter  
Inglis (SC)  
Issa  
Johnson (IL)  
Johnson, Sam  
Jones (NC)  
Jordan  
Keller  
King (IA)  
King (NY)  
Kingston  
Kirk  
Kline (MN)  
Knollenberg  
Kuhl (NY)  
LaHood

## NOT VOTING—17

Barrett (SC)  
Broun (GA)  
Carson  
Cubin  
Cuellar  
Davis, Jo Ann

Delahunt  
Dingell  
Ferguson  
Franks (AZ)  
Jindal  
Lee

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Lucas  
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E.  
Mack  
Manzullo  
Marchant  
McCarthy (CA)  
McCaul (TX)  
McCotter  
McHenry  
McHugh  
McKeon  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
Mica  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller, Gary  
Moran (KS)  
Murphy, Tim  
Musgrave  
Myrick  
Neugebauer  
Nunes  
Paul  
Pearce  
Pence  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Pitts  
Platts  
Poe  
Porter  
Price (GA)  
Putnam  
Radanovich  
Ramstad  
Regula  
Rehberg  
Reichert

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Gingrey  
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Herger  
Hobson  
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Issa  
Johnson (IL)  
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McKeon  
McMorris  
Rodgers  
Mica  
Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
Miller, Gary  
Moran (KS)  
Murphy, Tim  
Musgrave  
Myrick  
Neugebauer  
Nunes  
Paul  
Pearce  
Pence  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Pitts  
Platts  
Poe  
Porter  
Price (GA)  
Putnam  
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Rodgers  
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Miller (FL)  
Miller (MI)  
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Musgrave  
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Cubin  
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## NOT VOTING—17

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 223, nays 194, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 943]

### YEAS—223

Ackerman	Hall (NY)	Oberstar
Allen	Hare	Obey
Altmire	Harman	Oliver
Andrews	Hastings (FL)	Ortiz
Arcuri	Herseht Sandlin	Pallone
Baca	Higgins	Pascrell
Baird	Hill	Pastor
Baldwin	Hinchev	Payne
Bean	Hinojosa	Peterson (MN)
Becerra	Hirono	Pomeroy
Berkley	Hodes	Price (NC)
Berman	Holden	Rahall
Berry	Holt	Rangel
Bishop (GA)	Honda	Reyes
Bishop (NY)	Hookey	Richardson
Blumenauer	Hoyer	Rodriguez
Boren	Inslee	Ross
Boswell	Israel	Rothman
Boucher	Jackson (IL)	Roybal-Allard
Boyd (FL)	Jackson-Lee	Ruppersberger
Boyd (KS)	(TX)	Rush
Brady (PA)	Jefferson	Ryan (OH)
Braley (IA)	Johnson (GA)	Ryan (OH)
Brown, Corrine	Johnson, E. B.	Sánchez, Linda
Butterfield	Jones (OH)	T.
Capps	Kagen	Sanchez, Loretta
Capuano	Kanjorski	Sarbanes
Cardoza	Kaptur	Schakowsky
Carnahan	Kennedy	Schiff
Carney	Kildee	Schwartz
Castor	Kilpatrick	Scott (GA)
Chandler	Kind	Scott (VA)
Clarke	Klein (FL)	Serrano
Clay	Kucinich	Sestak
Cleaver	Lampson	Shea-Porter
Clyburn	Langevin	Sherman
Cohen	Lantos	Shuler
Conyers	Larsen (WA)	Sires
Cooper	Larson (CT)	Skelton
Costa	Levin	Slaughter
Costello	Lewis (GA)	Smith (WA)
Courtney	Lipinski	Snyder
Cramer	Loeb sack	Solis
Crowley	Lofgren, Zoe	Space
Cuellar	Lowey	Spratt
Cummings	Lynch	Stark
Davis (AL)	Mahoney (FL)	Stupak
Davis (CA)	Maloney (NY)	Markey
Davis (IL)	Markey	Tanner
Davis, Lincoln	Matheson	Tauscher
DeFazio	Matsui	Taylor
DeGette	McCarthy (NY)	Thompson (CA)
DeLauro	Dicks	Thompson (MS)
Dicks	McCollum (MN)	Tierney
Doggett	McDermott	Towns
Donnelly	McGovern	Udall (CO)
Doyle	McIntyre	Udall (NM)
Edwards	McNulty	Van Hollen
Ellison	Meek (FL)	Velázquez
Ellsworth	Meeks (NY)	Walz (MN)
Emanuel	Melancon	Wasserman
Engel	Michaud	Schultz
Eshoo	Miller (NC)	Waters
Etheridge	Miller, George	Watson
Farr	Mitchell	Watt
Fattah	Mollohan	Waxman
Filner	Moore (KS)	Weiner
Frank (MA)	Moore (WI)	Welch (VT)
Giffords	Moran (VA)	Wexler
Gillibrand	Murphy (CT)	Wilson (OH)
Gonzalez	Murphy, Patrick	Woolsey
Gordon	Murtha	Wu
Green, Al	Nadler	Wynn
Green, Gene	Napolitano	Yarmuth
Grijalva	Neal (MA)	
Gutierrez		

### NAYS—194

Aderholt	Blunt	Buyer
Akin	Boehner	Calvert
Alexander	Bonner	Camp (MI)
Bachmann	Bono	Campbell (CA)
Bachus	Boozman	Cannon
Baker	Boustany	Cantor
Barrow	Brady (TX)	Capito
Bartlett (MD)	Brown (GA)	Carter
Barton (TX)	Brown (SC)	Castle
Biggert	Brown-Waite,	Chabot
Bilbray	Ginny	Coble
Bilirakis	Buchanan	Cole (OK)
Bishop (UT)	Burgess	Conaway
Blackburn	Burton (IN)	Crenshaw

Culberson	Jordan	Radanovich
Davis (KY)	Keller	Ramstad
Davis, David	King (IA)	Regula
Davis, Tom	King (NY)	Rehberg
Deal (GA)	Kingston	Reichert
Dent	Kirk	Renzi
Diaz-Balart, L.	Kline (MN)	Reynolds
Diaz-Balart, M.	Knollenberg	Rogers (AL)
Doolittle	Kuhl (NY)	Rogers (KY)
Drake	LaHood	Rogers (MI)
Dreier	Lamborn	Rohrabacher
Duncan	Latham	Ros-Lehtinen
Ehlers	LaTourette	Roskam
Emerson	Lewis (CA)	Royce
English (PA)	Lewis (KY)	Ryan (WI)
Everett	Linder	Sali
Fallin	LoBiondo	Saxton
Feeney	Lucas	Schmidt
Ferguson	Lungren, Daniel	Sensenbrenner
Flake	E.	Sessions
Forbes	Mack	Shadegg
Fortenberry	Manzullo	Shays
Fossella	Marchant	Shimkus
Fox	McCarthy (CA)	Shuster
Franks (AZ)	McCaul (TX)	Simpson
Frelinghuysen	McCotter	Smith (NE)
Galleghy	McCrery	Smith (NJ)
Garrett (NJ)	McHenry	Smith (TX)
Gerlach	McHugh	Souder
Gilchrest	McKeon	Stearns
Gingrey	McMorris	Tancredo
Gohmert	Rodgers	Terry
Goode	Mica	Thornberry
Goodlatte	Miller (FL)	Tiahrt
Granger	Miller (MI)	Tiberi
Graves	Miller, Gary	Turner
Hall (TX)	Moran (KS)	Upton
Hastert	Musgrave	Walberg
Hastings (WA)	Myrick	Walden (OR)
Hayes	Neugebauer	Walsh (NY)
Heller	Nunes	Wamp
Hensarling	Paul	Weldon (FL)
Herger	Pearce	Weller
Hobson	Pence	Westmoreland
Hoekstra	Peterson (PA)	Whitfield
Hulshof	Petri	Wicker
Hunter	Pitts	Wilson (NM)
Inglis (SC)	Platts	Wilson (SC)
Issa	Poe	Wolf
Johnson (IL)	Porter	Young (AK)
Johnson, Sam	Price (GA)	Young (FL)
Jones (NC)	Putnam	

### NOT VOTING—15

Abercrombie	Delahunt	Perlmutter
Barrett (SC)	Dingell	Pickering
Carson	Jindal	Pryce (OH)
Cubin	Lee	Sullivan
Davis, Jo Ann	Murphy, Tim	Visclosky

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining on this vote.

□ 1211

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 193, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 944]

### YEAS—222

Abercrombie	Baird	Berry
Ackerman	Baldwin	Bilbray
Allen	Barrow	Bishop (GA)
Altmire	Bean	Bishop (NY)
Andrews	Becerra	Blumenauer
Arcuri	Berkley	Boren
Baca	Berman	Boucher

Boyd (FL)	Holt	Pastor
Boyda (KS)	Honda	Payne
Brady (PA)	Hookey	Peterson (MN)
Braley (IA)	Hoyer	Pomeroy
Brown, Corrine	Inslee	Price (NC)
Butterfield	Israel	Rahall
Capps	Jackson (IL)	Rangel
Capuano	Jackson-Lee	Reyes
Cardoza	(TX)	Richardson
Carnahan	Jefferson	Rodriguez
Carney	Johnson (GA)	Ross
Castor	Johnson, E. B.	Rothman
Chandler	Jones (OH)	Roybal-Allard
Clarke	Kagen	Ruppersberger
Clay	Kanjorski	Rush
Clyburn	Kaptur	Ryan (OH)
Cohen	Kennedy	Salazar
Conyers	Kildee	Sánchez, Linda
Cooper	Kilpatrick	T.
Costa	Kind	Sanchez, Loretta
Costello	Klein (FL)	Sarbanes
Courtney	Kucinich	Schakowsky
Cramer	Lampson	Schiff
Crowley	Langevin	Schwartz
Cuellar	Lantos	Scott (GA)
Cummings	Larsen (WA)	Scott (VA)
Davis (AL)	Levin	Serrano
Davis (CA)	Lewis (GA)	Sestak
Davis (IL)	Lipinski	Shea-Porter
Davis, Lincoln	Loeb sack	Sherman
DeFazio	Lofgren, Zoe	Shuler
DeGette	Lowey	Sires
DeLauro	Lynch	Skelton
Dicks	Mahoney (FL)	Slaughter
Doggett	Maloney (NY)	Smith (WA)
Donnelly	Markey	Snyder
Doyle	Marshall	Solis
Edwards	Matheson	Space
Ellison	Matsui	Spratt
Ellsworth	McCarthy (NY)	Stark
Emanuel	McCollum (MN)	Stupak
Engel	McDermott	Sutton
Eshoo	McGovern	Tanner
Etheridge	McIntyre	Tauscher
Farr	McNerney	Taylor
Fattah	McNulty	Thompson (CA)
Filner	Meek (FL)	Thompson (MS)
Frank (MA)	Meeks (NY)	Tierney
Giffords	Michaud	Towns
Gillibrand	Miller (NC)	Udall (CO)
Gonzalez	Miller, George	Udall (NM)
Gordon	Mitchell	Van Hollen
Green, Al	Mollohan	Velázquez
Green, Gene	Moore (KS)	Walz (MN)
Grijalva	Moore (WI)	Wasserman
Gutierrez	Moran (VA)	Schultz
	Murphy (CT)	Waters
	Murphy, Patrick	Watson
	Murtha	Watt
	Nadler	Waxman
	Napolitano	Weiner
	Neal (MA)	Welch (VT)
	Oberstar	Wexler
	Obey	Wilson (OH)
	Olver	Woolsey
	Ortiz	Wu
	Pallone	Wynn
	Pascrell	Yarmuth

### NAYS—193

Aderholt	Campbell (CA)	Ferguson
Akin	Cannon	Flake
Alexander	Cantor	Forbes
Bachmann	Capito	Fortenberry
Bachus	Carter	Fossella
Baker	Castle	Fox
Bartlett (MD)	Chabot	Franks (AZ)
Barton (TX)	Coble	Frelinghuysen
Biggert	Cole (OK)	Galleghy
Bilirakis	Conaway	Garrett (NJ)
Bishop (UT)	Crenshaw	Gerlach
Blackburn	Culberson	Gilchrest
Blunt	Davis (KY)	Gingrey
Boehner	Davis, David	Gohmert
Bonner	Davis, Tom	Goode
Bono	Deal (GA)	Goodlatte
Boozman	Dent	Granger
Boustany	Diaz-Balart, L.	Graves
Brady (TX)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hall (TX)
Broun (GA)	Doolittle	Hastert
Brown (SC)	Drake	Hastings (WA)
Brown-Waite,	Dreier	Hayes
Ginny	Duncan	Heller
Buchanan	Ehlers	Hensarling
Burgess	Emerson	Herger
Burton (IN)	English (PA)	Hobson
Buyer	Everett	Hoekstra
Calvert	Fallin	Hulshof
Camp (MI)	Feeney	Hunter

Inglis (SC)	Mica	Saxton
Issa	Miller (FL)	Schmidt
Johnson (IL)	Miller (MI)	Sensenbrenner
Johnson, Sam	Miller, Gary	Sessions
Jones (NC)	Moran (KS)	Shadegg
Jordan	Murphy, Tim	Shays
Keller	Musgrave	Shimkus
King (IA)	Myrick	Shuster
King (NY)	Neugebauer	Simpson
Kingston	Nunes	Smith (NE)
Kirk	Paul	Smith (NJ)
Kline (MN)	Pearce	Smith (TX)
Knollenberg	Pence	Souder
Kuhl (NY)	Peterson (PA)	Stearns
LaHood	Petri	Tancredo
Lamborn	Pitts	Terry
Latham	Platts	Thornberry
LaTourette	Poe	Tiahrt
Lewis (CA)	Porter	Tiberi
Lewis (KY)	Price (GA)	Turner
Linder	Putnam	Upton
LoBiondo	Radanovich	Walberg
Lucas	Ramstad	Walden (OR)
Lungren, Daniel	Regula	Walsh (NY)
E.	Rehberg	Wamp
Mack	Reichert	Weldon (FL)
Manzullo	Renzi	Weller
Marchant	Reynolds	Westmoreland
McCarthy (CA)	Rogers (AL)	Whitfield
McCauley (TX)	Rogers (KY)	Wicker
McCotter	Rogers (MI)	Wilson (NM)
McCrery	Rohrabacher	Wilson (SC)
McHenry	Ros-Lehtinen	Wolf
McHugh	Roskam	Young (AK)
McKeon	Royce	Young (FL)
McMorris	Ryan (WI)	
Rodgers	Sali	

## NOT VOTING—17

Barrett (SC)	Delahunt	Perlmuter
Boswell	Dingell	Pickering
Carson	Jindal	Pryce (OH)
Cleaver	Larson (CT)	Sullivan
Cubin	Lee	Visclosky
Davis, Jo Ann	Melancon	

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1218

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3246.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SERRANO). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

## REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 704, I call up the bill (H.R. 3246) to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide a comprehensive regional approach to economic and infrastructure development in the most severely economically distressed regions in the Nation, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3246

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act of 2007”.

## SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

- (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—
- (1) certain regions of the Nation, including Appalachia, the Mississippi Delta Region, the Northern Great Plains Region, the Southeast Crescent Region, the Southwest Border Region, the Northern Border Region, and rural Alaska, have suffered from chronic distress far above the national average;
  - (2) an economically distressed region can suffer unemployment and poverty at a rate that is 150 percent of the national average; and
  - (3) regional commissions are unique Federal-State partnerships that can provide targeted resources to alleviate pervasive economic distress.
- (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—
- (1) to provide a comprehensive regional approach to economic and infrastructure development in the most severely economically distressed regions in the Nation; and
  - (2) to ensure that the most severely economically distressed regions in the Nation have the necessary tools to develop the basic building blocks for economic development, such as transportation and basic public infrastructure, job skills training, and business development.

## SEC. 3. REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.

- (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 40, United States Code, is amended—
- (1) by redesignating subtitle V as subtitle VI; and
  - (2) by inserting after subtitle IV the following:

**“Subtitle V—Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development**

“Chapter	Sec.
“151. GENERAL PROVISIONS .....	15101
“153. REGIONAL COMMISSIONS .....	15301
“155. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE .....	15501
“157. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS .....	15701
<b>“CHAPTER 151—GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>	

- “Sec.  
“15101. Definitions.

“§ 15101. Definitions.  
“In this subtitle, the following definitions apply:

“(1) COMMISSION.—The term ‘Commission’ means a Commission established under section 15301.

“(2) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT.—The term ‘local development district’ means an entity that—

“(A)(i) is an economic development district that is—

“(I) in existence on the date of enactment of this chapter; and

“(II) located in the region; or

“(ii) if an entity described in clause (i) does not exist—

“(I) is organized and operated in a manner that ensures broad-based community participation and an effective opportunity for local officials, community leaders, and the public to contribute to the development and implementation of programs in the region;

“(II) is governed by a policy board with at least a simple majority of members consisting of—

“(aa) elected officials; or

“(bb) designees or employees of a general purpose unit of local government that have

been appointed to represent the unit of local government; and

“(III) is certified by the Governor or appropriate State officer as having a charter or authority that includes the economic development of counties, portions of counties, or other political subdivisions within the region; and

“(B) has not, as certified by the Federal Cochairperson—

“(i) inappropriately used Federal grant funds from any Federal source; or

“(ii) appointed an officer who, during the period in which another entity inappropriately used Federal grant funds from any Federal source, was an officer of the other entity.

“(3) FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM.—The term ‘Federal grant program’ means a Federal grant program to provide assistance in carrying out economic and community development activities.

“(4) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian tribe’ has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

“(5) NONPROFIT ENTITY.—The term ‘nonprofit entity’ means any entity with tax-exempt or nonprofit status, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service, that has been formed for the purpose of economic development.

“(6) REGION.—The term ‘region’ means the area covered by a Commission as described in subchapter II of chapter 157.

## “CHAPTER 153—REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

“Sec.

“15301. Establishment, membership, and employees.

“15302. Decisions.

“15303. Functions.

“15304. Administrative powers and expenses.

“15305. Meetings.

“15306. Personal financial interests.

“15307. Tribal representation on Northern Great Plains Regional Commission.

“15308. Tribal participation.

“15309. Annual report.

## “§ 15301. Establishment, membership, and employees

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There are established the following regional Commissions:

“(1) The Delta Regional Commission.

“(2) The Northern Great Plains Regional Commission.

“(3) The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission.

“(4) The Southwest Border Regional Commission.

“(5) The Northern Border Regional Commission.

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(1) FEDERAL AND STATE MEMBERS.—Each Commission shall be composed of the following members:

“(A) A Federal Cochairperson, to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

“(B) The Governor of each participating State in the region of the Commission.

“(2) ALTERNATE MEMBERS.—

“(A) ALTERNATE FEDERAL COCHAIRPERSON.—The President shall appoint an alternate Federal Cochairperson for each Commission. The alternate Federal Cochairperson, when not actively serving as an alternate for the Federal Cochairperson, shall perform such functions and duties as are delegated by the Federal Cochairperson.

“(B) STATE ALTERNATES.—The State member of a participating State may have a single alternate, who shall be appointed by the Governor of the State from among the members of the Governor’s cabinet or personal staff.